

# The Carlsbad Current

TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR.

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## ODD FELLOWS AND REBEKAHS TO CELEBRATE 100TH ANNIVERSARY TOMORROW.

Large Attendance from Surrounding Lodges Will Participate in Big Event.

The big event in Oddfellowship—the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the order—will be observed in Carlsbad tomorrow, Saturday, the 26th, instant. A large attendance of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs from lodges between Roswell, Hope and Lovington is expected. A program has been arranged for 2:30 at the Crawford Theatre, and the public is cordially invited to be present at these exercises.

The Pecos Valley Odd Fellows will hold its annual meeting immediately after the program at the Crawford Theatre and the principal business to be transacted will be the election of officers and the selection of a meeting place for the session of 1920.

The subordinate lodge will confer the initiatory degree at Odd Fellows Hall at 8:00 o'clock, a handsome set of new regalia having been purchased for the occasion. The degree will be preceded and followed by a beautiful drill, conducted under the leadership of Degree Captain, J. B. Leck.

The Rebekahs will hold their session at the Masonic Temple, where the Rebekah degree will be conferred by a degree staff from the Rebekah lodge at Artesia.

The social feature of the day will be held in the Odd Fellows Hall at 8:00 o'clock, where the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs will meet in joint session to listen to a short program, become better acquainted and partake of refreshments served by the local lodge of Rebekahs.

Immediately at the close of the program at the Crawford Theatre, Major Hares, a war veteran of the English Army, will speak upon the subject of the Victory Loan, under the auspices of the Federal Reserve Bank at Dallas, Texas. Major Hares will have a message which every one should hear and he will doubtless be received by a large audience.

To assist the hotels in taking care of the visitors, the ladies of the Christian Church, assisted by the Domestic Science class of the Carlsbad High School, will serve meals in the armory.

## OFFICIALS ELECTED FOR THE ROBERTS-DEARBORNE CO.

At a recent meeting of the Roberts-Deaborne Hardware Company, some changes were made in the Board of Directors, this being rendered necessary by the death of C. H. McLenathan, for many years a member of that body. At the meeting, S. I. Roberts was elected president; F. L. Dearborne, re-elected vice-president, and H. C. Dilley was chosen as secretary-treasurer. This was in recognition of Mr. Dilley's faithful services to the company, which never fails to recognize and reward fidelity in its employees. Resolutions of sorrow and regret at the death of C. H. McLenathan were adopted, he having been a director in the firm. This company is strictly a home company—its employees, without exception, owning their own homes and thus being interested in everything that is for the good of the town and county.

Dr. M. Eisner, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, is in town, coming Monday. Dr. Eisner is a dentist and is spending his vacation with his friend, Dr. Diefendorf, in the Pecos valley.

## DIRECTORS OF P. U. CO. MEET.

The directors of the Public Utilities Company held a meeting this week at the call of the president, A. J. Musky, who wished to talk over the work with the directors before leaving for the east. At this meeting affairs were reported as doing excellently and Mr. Musky was well pleased over the condition of things and the progress that had been made in the work since his last visit.

The manager, E. A. Roberts, was given authority to proceed with the improvements and extensions as planned by the officials some time ago. Among these will be the remodeling of the lower plant. A second water wheel is to be added there in order to assist in carrying the heavy load that is anticipated with the running of the cotton gin at Otis and other plants contemplated. New belts will be put on and a new clutch. There will be a new line run to La Huerta and an extension on Green Heights and many other improvements and additions will be made at an expenditure of several thousand dollars.

Resolutions were passed at this meeting on the death of Mr. McLenathan, a director in the company from its start.

L. S. Myers, Homer King, C. O. Merrittfield, J. B. Leck and S. L. Perry, of this city, and Milton Ferris and J. H. Jackson of Artesia and Sovereign Taylor of Hope, all of whom were delegates to W. O. W. Head Camp at Deming, returned Monday night and report a splendid meeting and a fine time at Deming and also at El Paso, where elaborate arrangements had been made for their reception. At the meeting, which was the second in the history of the Ari-Mex jurisdiction, it was brought out that this newly formed district is in a prosperous and growing condition, as well as the W. O. W. order. The Woodmen of the World are stronger today than ever before after having withstood two severe shocks to writers of insurance in the United States. The first shock was that caused by the war and the second and most severe was experienced when the epidemic of influenza spread over the country. But today they have over a million members and forty-six million dollars in their emergency fund. During the war no extra charges were made for insuring soldiers or sailors as was done by old line insurance companies. J. B. Leck was honored at this convention by being elected head banker and Mesa, Arizona, was chosen as the next place of meeting two years hence.

Rev. D. F. Sellards will leave tomorrow for Pecos in order to be there in time to preach at the Christian church Sunday morning. Later in the day, Sunday, in company with other ministers of the Christian denomination, he will go to Van Horn and will preach there Sunday night, and will go from there to El Paso to be in attendance at the Texas-New Mexico convention which convenes in the Pass City in annual session next Tuesday. About 100 delegates will be in attendance and the meetings are always looked forward to with great interest by numbers of the Christian church in this jurisdiction. Reverend Sellards will have an excellent report to give from his church at Carlsbad. Among other interesting items, the church here has been without a minister eighteen months out of the last five years, but has never failed to have the communion at stated times, and the church organization has been kept up.



The Shareholders' Meeting—Uncle Sam & Company.

## DEVELOPMENT OF OIL SOUTH OF CARLSBAD NOW UP TO LANDOWNERS.

In an interview with Scott Etter, who is in charge of the office management of the land owners pool south of Carlsbad, Mr. Etter talked freely and stated that he thought the time had come when the people who have contributed their lands to the success of this enterprise which means so much to Carlsbad and the lower valley, were entitled to all of the facts.

He also stated that other reasons for not making public any information in his possession was that certain men who have not contributed a single acre of land have been and are now using information to further their own interests at the expense of this development. Such men are even asking land owners for options of purchase on lands which they think might be well located, in order that they may be in possession of the right to sell and take advantage of any increase of price as a result of drilling.

It is suggested that when a land owner is approached by some one for such an option inside the pool, the land owner should ask the party if he has contributed any of his own land to the success of this pool. He stated that under the contract, the pool should have been ready for inspection and final approval by April 27th and two requirements were to be met on that date. One being as to total acreage, and the other as to drill sites being secured which were blocked up. The acreage has been secured, or promised, but on account of certain parties holding out, and the delay in reaching non-residents, it has been impossible to finish the blocking so that it would meet the requirements by April 27th. There is no desire to materially increase the acreage, and perhaps half a dozen land owners who have been holding out could settle the whole thing if they would even consent to putting in one-half or two-thirds of their holdings.

For this reason, the financial interests have been requested to extend the time for closing until May 10th, which gives about two weeks longer for a final effort to meet the requirements of the contract. Word has just been received that this time has been granted. Another and final effort will be made to block up and if failure comes, a very few land owners will now bear the burden of blame.

Monday morning, early Grandpa and Grandma Anderson, F. G. Tracy and daughter, Miss Josephine, H. F. Christian, Mrs. Christian, Miss Lela Christian and Marynet Reed, left overland for Long Beach, California. They expected to reach Van Horn, Texas, Monday night, and go from there to El Paso and continue almost due west from there until the California line is reached. This is the first time for years that Grandpa and Grandma Anderson have been out of town together and the entire town is interested in their trip. After a visit at Long Beach and with the Passengers and Canfields in Los Angeles, they will go to San Francisco for a visit with a grand-daughter, Mrs. Frank Moore, and from there to Klamath, Oregon, to visit Mrs. Harry Yardley, nee Betty Rule. Later they will make a visit to relatives of Grandpa's in Washington.

## SCHOOL NOTES.

May Day (May 1st.) has been designated by most of the states as France-American festival day. All the schools throughout the country will be expected to sing French songs, especially the Marseillais, and exhibit French flags. On this day the tri-color will float from the high school flag pole. The period from 2:15 in the high school and from 2:30 to the closing time in the Grammar school will be used for the exercises. In the high school patriotic recitations will be given by the Public Speaking classes. The purpose of the occasion is to promote good feeling and fellowship between France and the United States. Visitors are welcome.

Next week announcement of the various Commencement exercises will be made.

If some school child asks you to buy a Liberty bond, don't get excited. The children will only be doing what they can to help out. Some of the members of the 8B section are taking the state eighth grade examinations to-day, among them being Mary Frances Joyce and Catherine Simmons. Others from the same class will take the examinations to be given May 15th and 16th.

Don't forget the contest in public speaking which will be given at the High School next Friday at 3 P. M. You will be surprised at what the youngsters can do. Every patron of the schools is urged to be present.

Visiting week is coming and will be here May 5th to 9th. All visitors will be registered in each room, and the room or grade registering the largest number of visitors during the week will receive a prize. Now come out and see your children work. There will be no special exercises. Criticism after you make your visit will be welcome. We don't care for them unless based on an actual inspection. So come out and get the right to criticize.

## PROMINENT PECOS MAN KILLED BY AUTO.

Judge John W. Parker was run over by the big army motor truck of the U. S. Radio Corps, and his soul returned to God who gave it at 6:30 p. m. the same day. Judge Parker had been very busy in his office and was returning to his work at 1 o'clock and as he was crossing the street between the Pecos Hotel and the Cowan building was struck by the truck, doubled under the machine and dragged about 40 feet before the truck passed over the body, leaving it mangled and broken from head to foot. As stated above, he lived until 6:30, without regaining consciousness.

The body was laid to rest in Fairview Cemetery Thursday afternoon, the funeral services being conducted by his pastor, Rev. Fred B. Faust, at his home. A large concourse of sorrowing friends followed the casket to the cemetery where the body was tenderly laid to rest to await the resurrection. The mound was covered with beautiful and costly cut flowers.—Pecos Times.

A pleasant dance was enjoyed by fifteen couples at the Armory Wednesday night, under the auspices of the Wednesday club. The floor was said to be in fine condition for dancing and the music furnished by the Mexican orchestra was all that could be desired.

## THE STATE DEFRAUDED—KELLY CONVICTED.

The conviction of William G. Kelly of Kansas City in the District Court at Santa Fe last week closes a chapter of the greatest interest in the financial history of New Mexico. It will be recalled that Santa Fe county in 1880 and 1887 and Grant county in 1883 issued bonds in aid of railroad construction. In the Enabling Act granting statehood, Congress gave to New Mexico one million acres in land, the proceeds of leasing and sale of which should go to pay principal and interest of these bonds; any surplus remaining to belong to the public schools. From all indications it appears that such surplus will be considerable if the funds are properly safeguarded.

To determine whether or not there were irregularities in connection with the refunding by the state of the Santa Fe and Great county railroad bonds Governor W. E. Lindsey early in 1917 initiated an investigation carried on at first by R. C. Reid, then the governor's legal adviser and later by A. E. James, then Director of the Taxpayers' Association. Mr. James spent almost a year in the examination of the history of all transactions connected with these railroad bonds publishing his findings in the New Mexico Tax Review of June, 1918. In his report as published, a total of \$152,628.26 of illegal payments was shown of which \$51,980.36 was said to have been paid out upon duplicate claims and upon claims based upon fraudulent bonds of Santa Fe County. Of this total, W. G. Kelly, it was stated, presented claims aggregating \$43,634.13, which were paid, \$37,303.96 being paid a second time and \$6,330.17 upon fraudulent bonds.

In view of the number of irregular transactions and the amount involved, several indictments were returned against Kelly last year. It was not until the special March term of this year, however, that a trial was reached. The state's case was in charge of the Attorney-General, O. G. Askren, the former District Attorney J. H. Crist and A. E. James who was present both as witness and counsel. A. B. Renahan and C. C. Catron were the attorneys for the defense. Judge Holloman had disqualified himself and had asked Judge C. R. Brice of the Fifth Judicial District to preside.

For almost two weeks opposing counsel fought strenuously over the issues in the case, the state calling numerous witnesses and the defense only two or three. Voluminous records were introduced some of which were vigorously attacked as untrustworthy by the defense. With the evidence in, eight hours were devoted to argument before the case was closed. Prolonged as the trial had been, however, the jury promptly returned a verdict of "guilty" upon the charge of obtaining money from the state upon false pretenses. A motion for a new trial was heard and denied, the defendant being sentenced to from four to five years in the penitentiary. An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court.

Numerous questions have arisen in connection with the case. If guilty was Kelly alone in these transactions or did he have the help of others? Was he one of a number involved in a conspiracy to defraud the state? Is it possible to recover losses sustained by the state and to what extent? Will future claims be so thoroughly scrutinized as to prevent illegal payments? These are questions of vital importance to which Attorney-General Askren, who has fought so strenuously for the state's interests in this case, is now giving his most careful consideration.

Dr. Enloe, President of Silver City Normal, Returns.

The board of regents of the New Mexico Normal School the past week tendered to Prof. W. O. Hall, a member of the faculty of the Milwaukee Normal School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the presidency of the state institution at Silver City. Prof. Hall has accepted the position and will arrive there in June to assume his new duties.

Professor Hall will succeed Dr. E. L. Enloe, for four years past president of the Normal, who was forced to relinquish the direction of Normal affairs last fall because of a nervous breakdown due to too close application to his work. Since that time Prof. J. E. Brownlee, vice president has been in charge as acting president.

FOR SALE.  
The Red Ford Roadster.  
CHARLES AHRENBECK,  
Call at Anderson's Sanitarium.

A. O. Kuhn, of Albuquerque, is in town today and will hold a meeting at the Christian Church, this afternoon at 3 o'clock. Mr. Kuhn comes to hold this meeting in the interest of community service, and will also hold a meeting this evening at 8 o'clock at the same place. The matter is of the utmost importance to Carlsbad and Mr. Kuhn should have a large audience.

In compliance with the new tax laws of 1919, beginning May 1st, a tax of one cent for every 10 cents or fraction thereof for all purchases at our fountain will be added to the price.  
SWEET SHOP.

## CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS IN CARLSBAD INDICATES BUSINESS BOOM.

Growth of the "City Beautiful" Is Substantial Evidence of Coming Rush of Prosperity.

Building operations are said to be the barometer of trade. If so, the barometer seems to be rising in Carlsbad, for several buildings are going up or have been recently completed. Possibly as much as twenty-five thousand dollars has been expended in the work ordered or completed within the last few weeks.

By far the most ambitious of these projects is the two-story brick and reinforced concrete building being erected by R. J. Toffelmire for Joe James, on the east end of the National Bank Building plot. This building is estimated to cost thirteen thousand dollars. It will be of the same general construction as the National Bank building, which is also owned by Mr. James, and is to be completed by the first of July.

Two twenty-five foot stores are to occupy the ground floor and eight office rooms will be out upstairs. The west store room will have a side opening on a hallway which will run between the present building and the one to be constructed, allowing the occupant of the store an exit. In addition to this, the easterly building will have an exit on the alley.

The second store rooms are to be reached by a hallway and staircase with a machine and file lobby. The store front will be finished in plate glass and granite trimmings.

No authentic statement has been made as to the occupants of the stores, but it is understood that both rooms have already been rented, and it is rumored that a strong cash grocery store will occupy one of them. The rooms upstairs, if not occupied as offices, will be furnished and let as living rooms.

Second in importance in a business way is the big extension recently built on the east end of the Weaver Garage. The new room nearly doubles the capacity of the old building, and is 60 feet deep by 50 feet wide. It has a high, airy room, with windows on the western side with a sloping roof to the eastern side, which runs to the alley. This addition gives Weaver a greatly increased storage capacity, and room for his machine operations and repair work, which, evidently, have made it necessary to secure the added space. W. E. Wallace did the work.

Royd Baker is building a six-room reinforced concrete home on lots south of the Baptist church, which will be a credit to that locality and an incentive to the "Own-your-home" movement. Ray Soliday is also having built a five-room bungalow near Grace church. In one of the most favored localities in town, as it is near the city park, which is fast developing into a beautiful spot. This dwelling is estimated to cost twenty-five hundred dollars.

Horace Hutchison has let the contract for remodeling the White home on north Canal street, and D. J. Toffelmire is proceeding rapidly with this construction. This contractor has also lately finished an eight hundred dollar concrete garage on the Willard Bates property on north Canyon street.

Rooms in the courthouse and cell are being replastered, and this work is barely half done. It is a job of some magnitude, but when done, will add materially to the comfort and safety of the big court room, where loose plaster presented a menace to occupants of the building. The roof has also been replastered, and it is hoped that when the present work is done, the building will be good for many years to come.

Other important developments in the business world are the extensive new work planned by the Utilities Company in its telephone, water and light system, and the opening by the Carlsbad Light & Power Company of the laundry and ice factory. The latter company lately replaced its burnt out machinery across the river with a new installation, and has had expert overhauling the placement of the machines. The new manager, of the concern, F. E. Hubert, is authority for the statement that things must be in ample order before the plant will open.

The Utilities Company is to build a new power line to Otis, where it will supply power and light to the Otis gin building, which is to be built and ready for business some time during the summer. The company will supply power for this concern, and also run the town load from its plant at the lower dam, keeping its big twenty thousand dollar auxiliary plant which more than once has kept the town from total darkness, in reserve. The company will also lay half a mile of cast iron water pipe in several streets, and will add three fire hydrants to the fire fighting equipment of the town. The power line to La Huerta is also to be rebuilt. In the line of supplying extra water, a new and up-to-the-minute pump has been purchased for the city water supply.

Messrs. Price and Randolph visited the Mercantile Company's store in Lakewood Wednesday, looking after various matters of business in that connection.

## OFFICERS

E. HENDRICKS, Chairman.

J. N. LIVINGSTON, President. J. A. LUSK, Vice-President.  
FRANCIS H. RYAN, Cashier. T. C. HORNE, Vice-President

## The National Bank of Carlsbad

WE PAY FOUR PER CENT INTEREST ON TIME OR SAVINGS DEPOSITS

Capital and Surplus \$150,000.00



## DIRECTORS

E. HENDRICKS, Chairman of the Board.

J. N. LIVINGSTON T. C. HORNE  
L. E. MERCHANT. FRANCIS H. RYAN.  
J. A. LUSK. CARL B. LIVINGSTON.